

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

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R 201540Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5858

INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 16992

E. O. 11652: NGDS

TAGS: OSCI, PINT, IN, US

SUBJ: AMERICAN TO RESEARCH CORRUPTION IN BIHAR

1. WE HAVE JUST LEARNED THAT PROFESSOR SOLOMON RETTIG OF HUNTER COLLEGE IS DUE IN NEW DELHI ON JANUARY 1 AND WILL PROCEED TO PATNA CIRCA JANUARY 7 TO UNDERTAKE A STUDY OF CORRUPTIVE PRACTICES IN INDIAN BUREAUCRACIES. RETTIG'S PROGRAM HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AND THE INDIAN COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH.

2. THE SCIATT THIS AFTERNOON INFORMALLY MENTIONED THE RETTIG VISIT TO HIS INDIAN COLLEAGE, K. N. JOHRY, WHO HEADS THE SCIR SCREENING PROCESS. IN RESPONSE TO THE SCIATT'S COMMENT THAT THIS APPEARS TO BE A VERY SENSITIVE SUBJECT AND A SENSITIVE AREA, JOHRY AGREED, BUT SAID THERE WAS AGREEMENT WITHIN THE GOI ON THE PROJECT AND SPECIFIC APPROVAL BY THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS FOR THE RETTIG VISIT.

3. OFF HAND WE COULDN'T HAVE PICKED A MORE CONTROVERSIAL PROJECT FOR AN AMERICAN SOCIAL PSYCOLOGIST OR A MORE SENSITIVE AREA THAN BIHAR IF WE HAD TRIED. IF THE GOI HAS NO OBJECTION, FAR BE IT FROM US TO BLOCK THE PATH OF TRUE SCIENCE. WE HAVE A LINGERING SUSPICION, HOWEVER, THAT WE'VE NOT HEARD THE LAST OF THIS EFFORT.

4. IF IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO TALK TO RETTIG IN WASHINGTON WE REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT ASK HIM TO STOP BY THE EMBASSY FOR A CHAT DURING HIS WEEK IN NEW DELHI.

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## Message Attributes

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